



WPD NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**** News Release ****

WPD Officers, local businesses help family with multiple needs

In mid-November, WPD officers James Pearman and Naomi Arnold were dispatched to a call to check the welfare of an 18-year-old man who lives in the 4200 block of S. Broadway. The call came from a neighbor who was concerned that the man might not have enough food. It turned out the man was okay, but the woman who was concerned about him was herself facing multiple challenges.

Officers Pearman and Arnold found three of the woman's four children had serious medical needs that made it difficult for her to maintain a work schedule.

Upon further investigation, the two officers learned the woman and her children lived with the woman's mother, and that the mother's vehicle was not running.

The two officers took several steps to help the woman and her children. First, they enrolled the children in the Christmas Crusade so they would have holiday gifts.

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Next, Officers Pearman and Arnold, with the help of WPD civilian employee William Mahoney, contacted O'Reilly Auto Parts, Two Service and L&M Automotive who donated parts and labor to fix the woman's car. In addition, the two officers purchased a new battery for the woman's car with their personal funds to get it back up and running.

"This is an example of exceptional community policing," said Patrol South Bureau Commander Captain John Speer. "These officers were faced with a challenge in helping a family pull itself out of a very difficult situation. They took on that challenge and made life better for that family."